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| Applicant(s) | Gallagher, Robert T. | <u>AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111</u> |
| Serial No. | 09/273,197 | |
| Confirmation No. | 6784 | |
| Filing Date | March 19, 1999 | |
| Group Art Unit | 2665 | |
| Examiner Name | D. Ryman | |
| Attorney Docket No. | 100.044US01 (formerly 500.714US1) | |
| Title: DIGITAL RETURN PATH FOR HYBRID FIBER/COAX NETWORK | | |

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Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

MAR 21 2003
Technology Center 2000

The Office Action mailed on December 13, 2002 has been received and carefully reviewed. Consideration of the remarks set forth below is respectfully requested.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claim 13 as follows:

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13. (Amended) A method for processing data in a return path of a hybrid fiber/coax network, the method comprising:
receiving analog, upstream data at an optical distribution node from at least one coaxial cable link;
generating baseband digital data from the analog, upstream data;
creating a serial data stream including the digital data; and
driving a digital laser to transmit the digital data in a baseband digital format to a head end of the network.

Please cancel claim 17.